

Talk with ADE

Friday, April 28, 2006
Balsz Elementary District Board Room
10:00 a.m.

- ✓ Welcome by Joanne Phillips
- ✓ Update on changes in ADE
 - It is now critical to close out monitoring in 1 year with 45 day items done immediately.
 - New ideas for Compliance Monitoring
 - In a good faith effort to assist schools in reaching compliance standards, ESS offers the option of a special monitor to assist a PEA (school would be given 3 resumes to choose from) before revoking funds
 - Special monitors should have extensive SPED practice and SPED law background to assist school in reaching compliance standards and report to ADE on a monthly basis
 - Contact Lynn if you or anyone you know would be interested in being a special monitor
- ✓ Assistive Technology
 - What could we do? – We can do a better job.
 - UDL and Textbook Accessibility Act mentioned
 - AT Specialist – Froma Cummings – when meeting at a national level, they are astounded of what we hope to accomplish and want to be a part of it
 - ESS will be adding 10 new AT specialist positions
 - AT courses will be offered online
 - Focus has been on Phoenix – will be expanding more in Flagstaff and Tucson
 - The goal is for AT to be commonly used in the classroom, bringing an extensive amount of technology to the students
 - There will be pre-service training, in-service, and follow-up statewide
 - Lease agreements with vendors, state purchasing contracts, using one agency that executes short-term loans and door to door delivery services, and bringing large contracts in-house with added building space (ISA with RSA)
 - Southwest Human Development will still be available to schools to provide purchased services (student AT evaluations, etc)
 - Establish a presence in general ed classrooms to improve academic results (AYP, AIMS)
 - Anticipate to be up and running July 1st

- ✓ Certifications and Endorsements Recommendations
 - Committee recommended 3 credit hours in SPED law added to certification requirements at every administrative level
 - Working on adding SPED requirements into the coursework for Secondary Education Certification and possibly adding an Advisory Committee
 - Supervisor certification improved – Superintendent, Principal, Psychologist, Cross-Cat. certification also discussed
 - Differences discussed between SLP Certification and SL Technician
 - Investigating SLP classes on-line
 - SEI classes for professional certifications not required
- ✓ Status of different Bills
 - SB1380 conforming AZ statutes to IDEA 04 passed
 - SLPA SB1379 – Still alive and will allow them to be licensed – is very promising
 - HB2255 Surrogate Parent Bill – killed – may be overruled
- ✓ Open Discussion
 - MEDICAID going away? Outreach Program under scrutiny.
 - MAC outreach – ASDB and Mesa representing Arizona (find out more information about this and the LEA group at www.gregontheweb.com)
 - Alternate Accommodations – The Fed's imposed the change
 - Use the 2% proxy number and 1% AIMS-A until the regulations come out
 - Be judicious and use effectively. Ask yourself, “Does the child need it?”
 - Private schools and Home-schooling – Outreach, Public Find, and Child Count
 - Advertise, contact, document
 - Reverse thinking for LD students!
 - Teach the same concepts of the grade level, at their level of learning
 - Charter Schools may need more guidance on Post-School Outcome Survey
 - More information on Exit/Follow-up – Annual Performance Reports
 - Categories and Eligibility
 - Review of Existing Data (RED) may be all that is needed for transitioning preschoolers to obtain school age category
 - NCLB law, MIMR, ED, LD, AYP, SMR, and IEP meetings discussed
 - Using resources – finding a better way to evaluate
 - AIMS Testing
 - Pre-testing on practice test, then trying alternate accommodations needed
 - AIMS-A not mandated after the 10th grade but can be used for proper progress documentation

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.